

Organizers seek volunteers for annual Yuba River Cleanup

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Organizers are seeking volunteers for a massive river cleanup scheduled for September.

The 21st annual Yuba River Cleanup, organized by the South Yuba River Citizens League, will see hundreds of volunteers working to clean up the rivers, creeks and shoreline from the headwaters along Donner Summit to the confluence of the Yuba and Feather rivers on Sept. 15.

"We have nearly 90 miles of rivers, creeks and shoreline to cover in just one day, and we need your help keeping our local rivers trash free," said Daniel Belshe, a community engagement manager with SYRCL, in a press release. "Help us haul out the garbage, divert recyclables from the landfill and keep the Yuba clean, safe and healthy."

The event has been going on for more than 20 years, since the formation of the organization, and has hauled out more than 200,000 pounds of garbage and recyclable materials.

"The amount of trash removed from the river is less and less each year, and we hope that has to do with the communities getting involved," Belshe said.

Belshe said there will be about 30 cleanup sites along the river from the Donner Summit to the confluence of the Yuba and Feather rivers.

Last year, more than 800 volunteers removed about 14,000 pounds of garbage and recyclables from rivers, creeks and lakes.

Belshe said the SYRCL website will list specific information on the various clean up locations and volunteers can sign up there as well. More information can also be found by calling 265-5961.

The South Yuba River Citizens League's focus is the protection and restoration of the Yuba River watershed.